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MAR 08 2004  
U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Amendment

#4A

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No: unknown  
Filed: Herewith  
Inventor(s):  
Bodo K. Parady

Examiner: unknown  
Group/Art Unit: unknown  
Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-05005

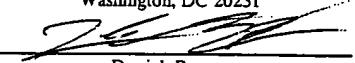
Title: Electro-Optically Coupled  
Multiprocessor  
Configuration

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10

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Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, DC 20231

  
Derrick Brown

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above-captioned case.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert the following paragraph on page 1, line 1:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No.  
09/553,600, filed April 20, 2000, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application  
Serial No. 08/883,862, filed June 27, 1997 (and which includes a continued prosecution  
application filed September 24, 1999).

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-26 without prejudice or disclaimer as to the subject matter  
recited therein.

Please add claims 27-46 as set forth below: